

5 August 2008

## Chem-Bio News

**1. WWI-ERA WEAPONS DESTROYED AT SCHOFIELD:** *"The 71 weapons, filled with the choking agents phosgene and chloropicrin, were the largest concentration of unexploded chemical weapons found at a U.S. operational training range."*

**2. BRUCE IVINS WASN'T THE ANTHRAX CULPRIT - OpEd:** *An op-ed piece appearing in the Wall Street Journal by Dr. Richard Spertzel, former deputy commander of USAMRIID, head of the biological-weapons section of UNSCOM [United Nations Special Commission] from 1994-99, and a member of the Iraq Survey Group.*

**3. MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO RICIN POSSESSION:** *"Roger Bergendorff, 57, who was hospitalized for two months with suspected ricin poisoning, also pleaded guilty to possession of unregistered firearms."*

**4. SURVIVOR OF 1994 AUM GAS ATTACK IN NAGANO DIES IN COMA:** *"Sumiko Kono, who survived an Aum Shinrikyo cult sarin gas attack in Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture, in 1994 but was left bedridden and comatose, died Tuesday of respiratory failure, people familiar with her said."*

## CB Daily Report

## Chem-Bio News

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### WWI-ERA WEAPONS DESTROYED AT SCHOFIELD

Associated Press in Army Times

August 1, 2008

"The Army on Thursday said it has completed destroying a large collection of World War I-era chemical weapons found at Schofield Barracks several years ago.

The 71 weapons, filled with the choking agents phosgene and chloropicrin, were the largest concentration of unexploded chemical weapons found at a U.S. operational training range."

The full article can be found at: [http://www.armytimes.com/news/2008/07/ap\\_WWIweapons\\_destroyed\\_073108/](http://www.armytimes.com/news/2008/07/ap_WWIweapons_destroyed_073108/)

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### BRUCE IVINS WASN'T THE ANTHRAX CULPRIT [Op-Ed]

By Richard Spertzel

The Wall Street Journal

August 5, 2008

"But despite the seemingly powerful narrative that Ivins committed suicide because investigators were closing in, this is still far from a shut case. The FBI needs to explain why it zeroed in on Ivins, how he could have made the anthrax mailed to lawmakers and the media, and how he (or anyone else) could have pulled off the attacks, acting alone.

I believe this is another mistake in the investigation."

"The spores could not have been produced at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, where Ivins worked, without many other people being aware of it. Furthermore, the equipment to make such a product does not exist at the institute."

"From what we know so far, Bruce Ivins, although potentially a brilliant scientist, was not that man. The multiple disciplines and technologies required to make the anthrax in this case do not exist at Army's Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases. Inhalation studies are conducted at the institute, but they are done using liquid preparations, not powdered products.

The FBI spent between 12 and 18 months trying "to reverse engineer" (make a replica of) the anthrax in the letters sent to Messrs. Daschle and Leahy without success, according to FBI news releases. So why should federal investigators or the news media or the American public believe that a lone scientist would be able to do so?"

The full article can be found at: [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121789293570011775.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121789293570011775.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

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## **MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO RICIN POSSESSION**

CNN.com

August 4, 2008

"A Nevada man who reportedly poisoned himself with ricin in his Las Vegas motel room pleaded guilty Monday to possession of a biological toxin, prosecutors said.

Roger Bergendorff, 57, who was hospitalized for two months with suspected ricin poisoning, also pleaded guilty to possession of unregistered firearms."

"Bergendorff is scheduled to be sentenced November 3. He faces up to 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 on each count."

The full article can be found at: <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/CRIME/08/04/ricin.plea/>

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## **SURVIVOR OF 1994 AUM GAS ATTACK IN NAGANO DIES IN COMA**

JapanToday  
August 5, 2008

"Sumiko Kono, who survived an Aum Shinrikyo cult sarin gas attack in Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture, in 1994 but was left bedridden and comatose, died Tuesday of respiratory failure, people familiar with her said. She was 60. Kono and her husband Yoshiyuki, 58, encountered the attack, which killed seven local residents and injured more than 100, while at home on the evening of June 27, 1994. Kono survived a cardiac arrest, though not without severe lingering effects to her brain."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.japantoday.com/category/crime/view/survivor-of-1994-aum-gas-attack-in-nagano-dies-in-coma>

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